

S. M. -85

CHARLOTTE HALL MILITARY ACADEMY

1774

Charlotte Hall

Established in 1774 by a legislative act of the Maryland General Assembly. Charlotte Hall Military Academy ~~is~~ believed to be the oldest military preparatory school in the Nation. **was**

Among the many notable and historically prominent men associated with the history of the school were: Roger Brooke Taney, fifth Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; The Right Reverend Thomas John Claggett, first Episcopal Bishop to be consecrated in the United States; George Watterson, first Librarian of Congress; Edward Bates, Attorney General during the Lincoln administration; and two Governors of Maryland, Robert Bowie and James Thomas.

This property has been included on the National Register of Historic Places, U.S. Department of the Interior, as part of the Charlotte Hall Historic District.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: Charlotte Hall School	
AND/OR HISTORIC: Charlotte Hall Military Academy (never officially so named)	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: La Plata Newmarket Road (MD 6)			
CITY OR TOWN: Charlotte Hall			
STATE Maryland	CODE	COUNTY: St. Mary's	CODE

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition:	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes:
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No: <input type="checkbox"/>				
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: Owned and governed by the board of trustees.			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Charlotte Hall	STATE: Maryland	CODE	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE	
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 320 total Campus 30 acres			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>			Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		
				Moved <input type="checkbox"/>		
				Original Site <input type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Grounds and Buildings

The landed estate of the school embraces 320 acres, one half of which is cleared. The Campus consists of about 30 acres. Here are located the Academic Building, the Main Dormitory or Barracks, the Old White House (built in 1803), Alumni Hall, Keech Hall, the beautiful Chapel erected in 1884 to the memory of the first Principal, Rev. Hatch Dent, the P.X., Armory, New Dormitory and New Dining Hall.

The Academic Building, which was erected in 1897, and is now being replaced by a new building, will be renovated and used for recreation. This building, commonly called the School Hall is of colonial design with an inset portico which reaches to the second floor. Four graceful pillars support the roof. The building has a hipped roof surmounted by a belfry, the roof of which is also supported by smaller columns, eight in number.

See the attached Item 2 for a description of the original School Hall which was built in 1793 and burned in 1897. The foundation can still be seen.

In addition to the beauty of the school and campus the village of Charlotte Hall which adjoins the school, is exceptionally picturesque and interesting. There is a very old Post Office and brick home known as the Briscoe House, which was described on another form. Some of the handsome frame homes date back to the past century, prior to the Civil War. The famous and remarkable Coole Springs furnish the school with an abundant supply of water of superb quality. The first hospital in Maryland was located near them because they were believed to be springs of "healing waters".

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☒20th Century ☐15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☒Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☒Industry ☐lasaphy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☒Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Charlotte Hall is believed to be the oldest military preparatory school in America. From the Chronicles of Colonial Md:

"On the 3rd of December 1773, the Maryland Gazette proposed a plan for consolidating into one institution the free schools of Southern Maryland, of which each County had one. The following year, a similar plan, but embracing only the Counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Prince George's was passed by the General Assembly - the origin of Charlotte Hall. The act provided that 'one school be erected at the place commonly called the Cool Springs, in St. Mary's County, to be called Charlotte Hall'.

"Few institutions have established a higher record for honor and usefulness than Charlotte Hall; none has contributed more in moulding the character and shaping the destiny of the youth of Maryland, and the splended results which it has achieved may well be a source of pride and gratification of the people of the State."

"The Washington and Stonewall Society, organized in February, 1797, whose membership is composed of students elected from Charlotte Hall, enjoys the proud distinction of being the oldest surviving literary debating society in Maryland, and perhaps in the United States. The Society library contains about 2,000 volumes, and among them are some rare and valuable works."

In 1814 the cadets of Charlotte Hall were called upon to help defend the country against the British. Admiral Raphael Semmes, of Civil War fame was a graduate of the old school, and many other important figures in Maryland history.

This old institution should certainly be a prime candidate for national registration.

Other prominent men associated with Charlotte Hall are:
 Roger Brooke Taney, 5th Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court, Member of the Board of Trustees of Charlotte Hall.
 Right Rev. Thomas J. Clagett, First Episcopal Bishop consecrated in the country, Member of Board of Trustees.
 George Watterson, alumnus, first Librarian of Congress.
 John Marshall Scott Causin, alumnus, called by President John Quincy Adams the most talented man in Congress.
 Edward Bates, alumnus, President Lincoln's Attorney General.
 Maryland Gov. Robert Bowie, Bd. of Trustees.
 Maryland Gov. James Thomas, Bd. of Trustees.

In 1874 40 members of Congress, Alumni, attended 100th anniversary.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chronicles of Colonial Maryland, by James Walter Thomas
Charlotte Hall School Records

Guyther, J. Roy, M.D.

1992 Charlotte Hall School, 1774-1976. Charlotte Hall, MD:

Charlotte Hall Alumni Association.

Gibb, James G.

1990 "Charlotte Hall Academy, 1797-1976." Chronicles of St. Mary's.
Vol. 38, No. 2, pp. 305-311.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

CHARLOTTE HALL QUAD

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE			
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "			
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	COOE	COUNTY	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Robert B. Woodside, II and Robert E. T. Pogue

ORGANIZATION

Charlotte Hall School

Bushwood, Md. 20618

DATE

April 6, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Charlotte Hall

STATE

Maryland 20622

COOE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

1900851202

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: <i>Charlotte Hall Military Academy</i>				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:				
STATE		COUNTY:		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		

[illegible]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SM-85

8. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE				
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds				
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "				
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NDMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		
ORGANIZATION		DATE
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

New Veterans Home (1982)

aka Alumni Hall

Gymnasium Keech Hall
(1922) (c.1935)

New Academic
Bldg. (1971)

site of old
Administration Bldg.
(1927-1982)

14 ✓

Thomas House

12 ✓

c.1950
brick
house

10

4-gable
house
(private)

ormitory
(1960)

18

16 ✓

Academic
Bldg. (1897)
aka Old Classroom
Bldg.

(SM-86)
White
House (1803)

15

13

Dent Memorial
Chapel (1884)

Chelsey House (c. 1800, private)

OLD ROUTE 5

TO NEW Rte 5

4

2-story
frame house
(c. 1880)

6

19th C.
frame house
(semi-private)

7 ✓

Mattingly
House

I.R.S.
Bldg.

8 ✓

Davis
House

5

late 19th C.
frame house
(semi-private)

Youth Services
(private ?)

2

3

c.1960
brick house

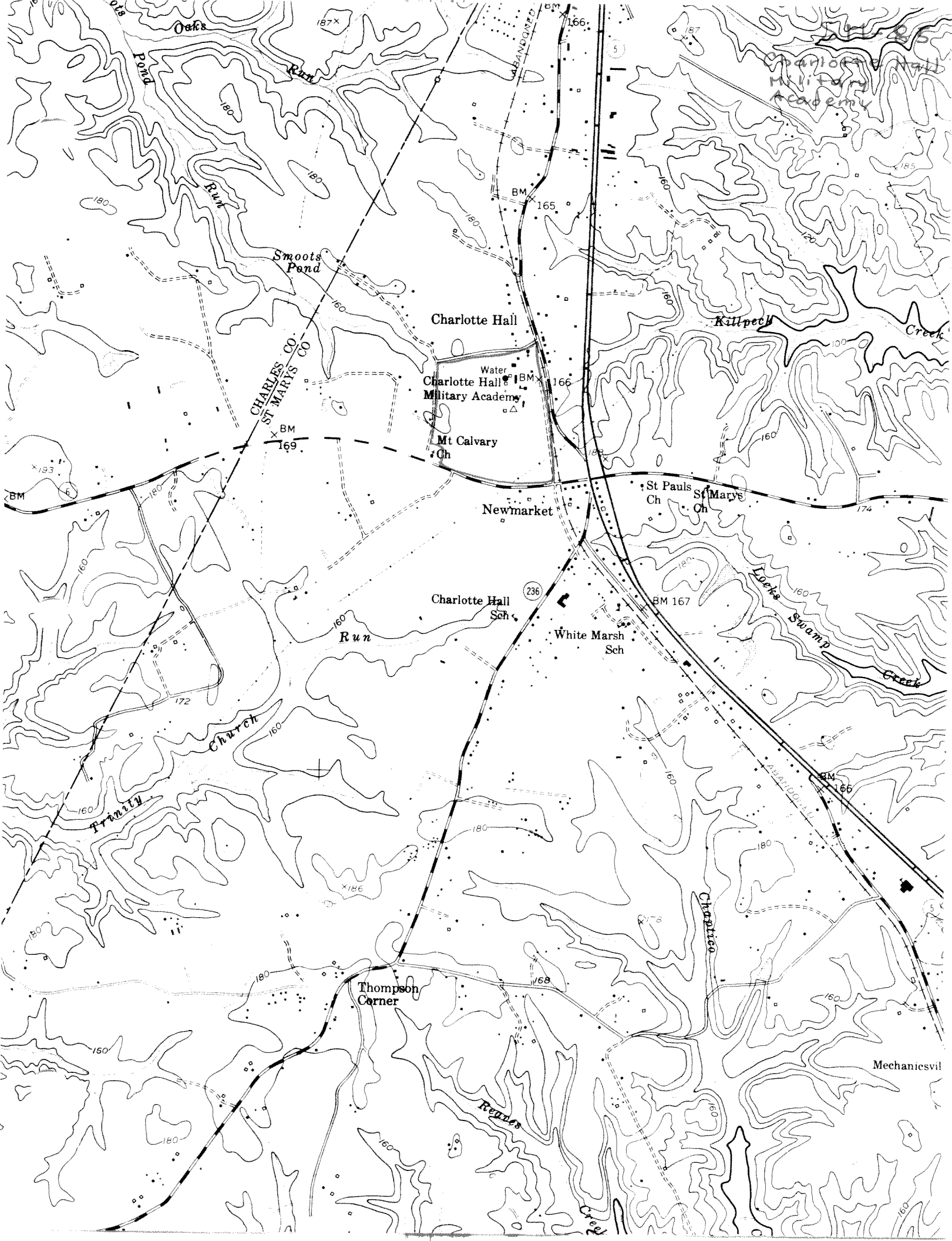
Briscoe
House
(c.1825,
private)

CHARLOTTE HALL

3/6/84 KEK

SM-85

Briscoe
tenant house





Charlotte Hall Mount (S11-85)
(Charlotte Hall Mount (S11-85))

photo taken between
1952 and 1960

Charlotte Hall, SM

MHT



Academic Bldg. aka (SH-367)
Old Classroom Bldg.



Charlotte Hall, SM-85

Academic Bldg. aka (SM-367)
Old Classroom Bldg.



Charlotte Haen SM-SS

Dormitory built
1960



Charlotte Hall, SM-85

Charlotte Hall Military Academy
Administration Building, 1927
demolished 1982



SM-85

Charlotte Hall Military Academy

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Nov/99

Looking N

1 of 1



SN- 85

Charlotte Hall Military Academy
St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzezza

Md SHPO

Nov/99

Looking W- Main gates

1 of 2.



SM-85

Charlotte Hall Military Academy

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzezza

Md SHPO

Nov/99

Dormitory + fdn of water tower - looking W

2 of 2